

**Routes Team  
Meeting Minutes  
January 28, 2002  
Governor's Office Building, Room 460  
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Jefferson City, Missouri**

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Attendees:

Wesley Stephen, MoDOT – District 6  
Jason Knipp, MoDOT – General Headquarters (Long Range Transportation Plan)  
Mark Rankin, MoDOT – General Headquarters (Outdoor Advertising)  
Cheryl Ball, MoDOT – General Headquarters (Long Range Transportation Plan)  
Larry Welty, MoDOT – District 6  
Mike Murray, Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MoBPAC)  
Tom Yarbrough, Trailnet  
Aaron Bartlett, MARC  
Dale Brigham, Columbia Council on Physical Fitness and Health;  
Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health  
Mary Donze, MoDNR – St. Louis  
Diana Allen, National Park Service  
Deb Schnack, MoDNR

- Meeting called to order at 10:02. Introductions were made.
- Larry Welty, Interim (Statewide) Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, opened discussion by reviewing the meeting minutes of January 14. Team members then reported out the various Action Items that were assigned on January 14 (as part of agenda items II and III):
  - - (a) Larry Welty shared ideas received for enhancing MoDOT's website. Larry also distributed a letter he drafted to be sent to the MPO's and RPC's. The purpose of the letters is to gather input and information on existing and potential bike/ped facilities throughout the state. This information would facilitate the team's overall bike/ped system development efforts. Team members were asked to comment on the draft.

Finally, Larry mentioned that he had not yet identified Department of Tourism staff to participate on the Routes Team.
    - (b) Mike Murray gave an overview on the various trails in Missouri. Mike also distributed contracts, website listings and other information about trails in Missouri. Mike described the trail hierarchy starting with the notable National Millennium Trails – four of which pass through or begin in Missouri: The American Discovery Trail, The Civil War Discovery Trail, The Louis and Clark Trail and The Mississippi River Trail. The Katy Trail is identified as a Millennium Legacy Trail. Finally, some 12-16 additional trails have been either

nominated or designated as Community Millennium Trail. Among these are the Riverfront Trail in St. Louis and the Katy Trail in Jefferson City. Information on the above and other trails is available at [www.millenniumtrails.org](http://www.millenniumtrails.org). Information on the National Millennium Trails is also available by contacting Mr. Jeff Olson, 10 Clark Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Telephone: 518-584-6634, 518-584-6639 (fax); or e-mail [trails2k@aol.com](mailto:trails2k@aol.com).

Diana Allen provided information on several other national trails that have either trailheads or connection points in Missouri. They include: The California Trail, The Mormon Pioneer Trail and the Oregon Trail. These trails are under the aegis of the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service. Diana also presented and discussed a matrix that could be further developed and used to gather data about the various trails. Information about the status, mileage, water trial miles, etc. could be collected.

Mike Murray suggested that a contact person be included in the matrix. National Park service contact for the Louis and Clark and other NPS – sponsored trails in Missouri are: John Conoboy, NPS Distance Trails Group – Santa Fe Office, P.O. Box 728 Santa Fe, NM 87504. Telephone 505-988-6888. Jere Knakow, NPS Long Distance Trails Office, 324 S. State Street, Room 250, P.O. Box 45155, Slat Lake City, UT 84145, Telephone: 801-539-4095.

Mary Donze provided information on the Ozark Trail (also referred to as the Meramec Greenway in St. Louis). This is a non-contiguous pedestrian/hiking trail in Missouri, in various stages of development. It traverses public and private lands and is under the aegis of MoDNR.

During discussion several other trails and or significant routes were mentioned as being important to developing a network of interconnected bike/ped routes within Missouri and with the (eight) adjoining states. Mike Murray suggested that a list be prepared of all officially designated trails and make mention (allude) to others. There was agreement that the Frisco Trail be included in such a list. It was also agreed that the national trails be put on the map [as an overlay to the proposed bike/ped corridors in Missouri]. The overlay would include: Route 66, The Camino (Royal Road) Trail, Transamerica Trail (Bike Highway 76) and Scenic Byways. Diana observed that because many of the trails have more than one designation, local sponsors or communities are afforded the opportunity to apply for or compete for available funds to do small-scale enhancement projects. For example, sponsors could compete for an estimated \$5 million that could be available for the Louis and Clark national trail. With regard to the Louis and Clark, Diana observed that there is a need for coordination as it relates to signage. Signs were fabricated and installed by MoDOT in the 1950's when the Louis and Clark was under the jurisdiction of MoDOT. These signs are different from the ones later installed by the National Parks Service.

- As discussion continued on the above action items, Larry Welty suggested that the team begin to identify existing trails and bike/ped routes as well as proposed corridors. Team members then began in developing a color-coded base map (using an official State of Missouri Map) of existing Routes such as the Katy and MRT. As the team discussed what the goals of a major bicycle and hiking network should be, overlays were developed (based on those goals). After much discussion, the following goals and objectives were agreed upon: (1) follow (or parallel) or expand on existing trails; (2) connect geographic, historic, population centers and natural and scenic areas; (3) connections/tie-in to surrounding states as well as within the state parks; (4) identify routes on the state highway system; (5) overcome (natural and man-made) barriers, e.g. rivers, metropolitan area connections; (6) connect to Department of Tourism's Regions tourist destinations such as Branson and Lake of the Ozark and; (7) connections to (private) ferry boats. The resulting map and overlays is a first attempt at addressing these goals.

Diana suggested that a separate letter be drafted for the eight neighboring states to gather information on bike/ped routes and corridors.

All agreed that cue sheets should be prepared for existing trails. This information should be published and disseminated. It would provide needed information on connections points.

The team completed its efforts (agenda items III, IV and VI) to identify corridors. Discussion involved corridor selection methodology, (Cheryl Ball felt that a methodology provides the means to support corridor selection). Once potential corridors have been identified (with set parameters or criteria then the team could write to the RPC's and MPO's, providing them with the proposed corridors and seeking their input for possible points of connection. Cheryl suggested that the RPC and MPO distribution list (maintained by General Headquarters) be used.

However, before the RPC's and MPO's are contacted, the team must (identify and) prioritize the routes or corridors. [final set of corridors could resemble a grid].

At the request of Cheryl Ball, agenda item VIII (Share the Road) was discussed next. Cheryl reported on the two Action Items she was assigned on 1/14. Cheryl said she had had discussions with Chief Counsel and Traffic staff about MoDOT's Share the Road Policy. The Policy is interpreted and applied differently in Kansas City than in St. Louis. Kansas City installs share-the-road signs on roadways and roadway sections they consider standard (or suitable for bicycles). Cheryl stated that she would continue discussions to clarify the policy. However, she sees the work of the Routes Team – working with and through the statewide bike/ped coordinator – as being important to establishing consistent application of standards, particularly in rural areas. Aaron Bartlett, Cheryl and Larry agreed that signs should be used in areas where there is a plan (for sharing the road).

- Agenda Item VII (Bike Suitability) was discussed next. Jason Knipp distributed a list of the kinds of highway data categories available from MoDOT's Transportation Management Systems (TMS). Some of this information could be useful in developing suitability criteria for Missouri. The Routes Team is charged with identifying which indicators are most important to bike/ped Routes and would work best and recommend these to the Standards Team. Cheryl stated that any criteria developed should be tied to national standards. This way, it would be much easier to explain (to RPC's, MPO's, others). Aaron suggested that the state of Florida has developed a good suitability formula or criteria. Cheryl suggested that the Illinois formula (for rural areas was also good. Wesley Stephen suggested that a combination of the Bicycle Compatibility Index (BCI) and the Illinois formula or index be considered.

The former could be applied to urban areas while the latter could be applied to rural areas. Jason mentioned that the Oregon Bicycle plan as used by the Standards Team. Dale Brigham noted that the two key factors in any suitability index or formula are shoulder width and AADT. He suggested that there is an interaction (level of contact) between AADT and Posted Speed and Shoulder (or lack there of). Higher posted speeds and wider shoulders are less desirable than lower posted speeds and narrower shoulders.

- After explaining the more important items on the list, Larry Welty lead the team in a brief exercise to identify, in priority order, three or more data categories that the team members feel would be important to them, personally, in establishing suitability. (See attached sheets.)
- The next meeting of the Routes Team is scheduled for Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Room 460 of the Governor's Office Building (Lunch will be provided).

Wesley recapped the action items from the meeting:

- (a) Mike
  - identify points of connection and prepare cue sheet for the MRT
- (b) Aaron
  - identify point of connection and prepare cue sheet for trails in Kansas City area
- (c) Dale
  - identify points of connection and prepare cue sheet for the American Discovery Trail
- (d) Diana
  - identify points of connections and prepare cue sheet for the Louis and Clark and other national trails in Missouri

- identify contacts for each national trail
- expand matrix to include all trails

(e) Bob

- identify points of connection and prepare case sheets for the Civil War Discovery Trail

(f) All

- comments on draft letter to Larry by Thursday afternoon
- submit cue sheets to Larry

- Meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.